(b) The scheme is basically applicable to Scientists and Technologists of Scientific Departments/Organisations engaged in Scientific research-both basic and applied.

(c) On completion of the prescribed residency period in a grade, the Scientists/ Technologists are assessed for promotion by a duly constituted Selection Board on the basis of proven merit, research work done and other allied factors. The scheme helps in quicker promotions because promotions are not vacancy based.

Import of Quality Products As Scrap

5328. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the item captioned 'Bid for IT recovery from fictitious scrap dealers' appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated August 1, 1991 wherein it has been stated that steel worth crores of rupees has been imported into the country in the form of scrap etc;

(b) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice during the last one year where big firms imported quality products in the form of scraps and deprived the Government of legitimate revenues;

(c) whether any instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein concerned officials were found involved in such rackets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to completely plug the loopholes which help in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Unresolved Points In Uruguay Round of Trade and Tariff Negotiations

5329. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main points of difference between the developed and the developing countries that have remained unresolved during the Uruguay Round of trade and tariff negotiations;

(b) the stand of the two sides on each point; and

(c) the efforts made by the Group of 77 to bridge the differences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As the Uruguay Round has not yet been concluded, most of the important issues under negotiation still remain open and unresolved. In multilateral trade negotiations, each country pursues its own economic interests and differences of views on the issues being negotiated do not always follow the North-South divide. Some coalitions do develop among countries seeking enhancement of market access in the same group of products, viz. agricultural products, tropical products, natural resource-based products, and textiles and clothing. The Group of 77, which operates in the UN fora, does not have any status in the Gatt. Although there is an informal group of developing countries in GATT which sometimes makes joint statements, smaller groups of developing countries have divergent negotiating objectives and attach varying degrees of importance to negotiations in different areas. In agriculture, while the major participants are divided on the extent of reforms,